



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

March 9, 2007

H.R. 162 **Jean Lafitte National Historical Park** **and Preserve Boundary Adjustment Act of 2007**

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on March 7, 2007

H.R. 162 would expand by 3,000 acres the boundary of the Barataria Preserve Unit of the Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve in Louisiana. The bill also would allow the National Park Service (NPS) to acquire land within the unit's boundaries by transfer from other federal agencies in addition to other methods such as purchase or donation.

Assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 162 would cost between \$1 million and \$5 million over the next several years, depending on how much private land is acquired for the unit and on the final appraised value of that property. We estimate that acquiring the privately owned wetlands and two large tracts of federally owned property (some of which is located inside the existing boundary but cannot be acquired without the transfer authority that would be granted by H.R. 162) would cost around \$1 million. Acquisition costs would increase by up to \$4 million if the NPS also purchases some of the 86 acres of private uplands in the Bayou aux Carpes addition area. We estimate that costs to develop and manage the additional acreage would be minimal. This estimate is based on information provided by the NPS. Enacting H.R. 162 would have no effect on revenues or direct spending.

H.R. 162 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would have no significant impact on the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Deborah Reis. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.